

Please add the following new claims:

35. The biocompatible metal alloy of Claim 17, wherein said alloy consists essentially

36 of:

from about 26 to about 28 weight percent chromium;
from about 5 to 6 weight percent molybdenum;
up to about 1 weight percent manganese;
up to about 1 weight percent nickel;
up to about 0.75 weight percent iron;
up to about 0.07 weight percent carbon;

the remainder of the alloy being cobalt and impurities.

36. The biocompatible metal alloy of Claim 35 further comprising:

nitrogen in an amount up to about 0.25 weight percent;
less than about 0.10% Si; and
less than about 0.02% Ti.

37. A biocompatible cobalt-base alloy of Claim 17 wherein said alloy has a ratio of weight percent of cobalt to a sum of weight percent of chromium and one-half weight percent of molybdenum in the range of below about 0.450.

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed December 5, 2001, in the above-referenced application. The specification has been amended to discuss Figure 16. No new matter is added to the application because the implant and fixation devices shown in Figure 16 are well known in the art and are specifically discussed in the specification as originally filed (see, for example, pages 6 and 13). Further, an identical amendment was made in the parent, Application Serial No. 09/247,395 issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,187,045.